

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior version, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 – 18 (Canceled)

19. (New) An electrode array for use in an implantable medical device, said electrode array comprising:

at least four consecutive electrodes that provide a non-uniform electrode density of said electrode array and wherein said at least four consecutive electrodes are positioned such that any two consecutive electrodes of said four consecutive electrodes have a different distance between them than any one other pair of said four consecutive electrodes.

20. (New) The electrode array of claim 19 wherein said electrode array uses specific frequency bands associated with speech recognition.

21. (New) The electrode array of claim 19 wherein the electrode density gradually increases along the electrode array, said electrode array having a proximal end disposed deeper in an ear and a distal end, said electrode density being higher at said proximal end than said distal end.

22. (New) An electrode array for use in an implantable medical device, said electrode array comprising:

at least four consecutive electrodes and wherein said at least four consecutive electrodes are positioned such that any two consecutive electrodes of said four consecutive electrodes have a different distance between them than at least one other pair of said four consecutive electrodes.

23. (New) The electrode array of claim 22 wherein said electrode array uses specific frequency bands associated with speech recognition.

24. (New) The electrode array of claim 22 wherein an electrode density gradually increases along said electrode array, said electrode array having a proximal end disposed deeper in an ear and a distal end, said electrode density being higher at said proximal end than said distal end.

25. (New) An electrode array for use in an implantable medical device, said electrode array comprising:

at least four consecutive electrodes E1, E2, E3 and E4, wherein the distance between E1 and E2 is D1, wherein the distance between E2 and E3 is D2, wherein the distance between E3 and E4 is D3 and wherein $D1 \neq D2 \neq D3$.

26. (New) The electrode array of claim 25 wherein said electrode array uses specific frequency bands associated with speech recognition.

27. (New) The electrode array of claim 25 wherein the electrode density gradually increases along the electrode array, said electrode array having a proximal end disposed deeper in an ear and a distal end, said electrode density being higher at said proximal end than said distal end.

28. (New) An electrode array for use in an implantable medical device, said electrode array comprising:

at least four consecutive electrodes that provide a non-uniform electrode density of said electrode array wherein said at least four consecutive electrodes are positioned such that any two consecutive electrodes of said four consecutive electrodes have a different distance between them than any one other pair of said four consecutive electrodes, wherein the electrode density gradually increases along the electrode array, wherein said electrode array has a proximal end disposed deeper in an ear and a distal end, wherein said electrode density is higher at said proximal end than said distal end, and wherein said electrode array is precurved for perimodiolar placement.